## Amendments to the Claims:

Without prejudice, this listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application:

## Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for utilizing at least one tender <u>created by a tender initiator,</u> comprising:

a storage device storing data which relates to the at least one tender; and

a processing device transmitting information corresponding to the data, wherein the at least one tender is provided for a complex multi-variable commodity, the processing device further enabling [[a user]] <u>a tender recipient</u> to request an exception to create or modify a term of the at least one tender,

wherein [[the complex multi-variable commodity is a particular commodity whose price determination is based on a variation of a plurality of variable characteristics regarding]] <u>the term of the at least one tender that is created or modified by the exception relates to</u> a physical characteristic of the particular commodity.

2. – 3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the processing device executes a program on a remote device.

5. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the storage device includes a database storing data which is related to the at least one tender.

6. (Original) The system according to claim 5, wherein the database is a relational database.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the processing device:

receives the data,

analyzes the data, and

transmits the information to a further processing device,

wherein the information is transmitted in response to the received data.

9. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the processing device at least one of transmits and receives the information electronically via the Internet.

10. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the processing device at least one of transmits and receives information electronically via a network of further processing devices.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for utilizing at least one tender <u>created by a tender initiator,</u> comprising the steps of:

        receiving data for the at least one tender, the at least one tender being provided for a complex multi-variable commodity;

        transmitting information corresponding to the data to a device; and

        accepting [[user]] input <u>from a tender recipient</u> for generating an exception to create or modify a term of the at least one tender,

        wherein [[the complex multi-variable commodity is a particular commodity whose price determination is based on a variation of a plurality of variable characteristics regarding]] <u>the term of the at least one tender that is created or modified by the exception relates to</u> a physical characteristic of the particular commodity[[,

        wherein at least one variable characteristic is a physical characteristic of a particular commodity]].

12. – 14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the data is at least one of received and transmitted electronically via the Internet.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the data is at least one of received and transmitted electronically via a network of processing devices.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for utilizing at least one tender <u>created by a tender initiator,</u> comprising:

        a storage device storing data which relates to the at least one tender; and

        a processing device transmitting information corresponding to the data,

        and enabling a [[user]] <u>tender recipient</u> to request an exception to create or modify a term of the at least one tender,

wherein <u>the term of the at least one tender that is created or modified by the exception relates to a physical characteristic of a particular commodity</u> [[the at least one tender includes at least one of a term and a condition, and

wherein the term and the condition are capable of being modified]].

18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) The system according to claim 17, wherein the processing device executes a program on a remote device.

20. (Original) The system according to claim 17, wherein the storage device includes a database storing data which is related to the at least one tender.

21. (Original)The system according to claim 20, wherein the database is a relational database.

22. (Original) The system according to claim 17, wherein the processing device:

       receives the data,

       analyzes the data, and

       transmits the information to a further processing device, wherein the information is transmitted in response to the received data.

23. (Original) The system according to claim 17, wherein the processing device at least one of transmits and receives the information electronically via the Internet.

24. (Original) The system according to claim 17, wherein the processing device at least one of transmits and receives information electronically via a network of further processing devices.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A method for utilizing at least one tender <u>created by a tender initiator,</u> comprising the steps of:

       receiving data for the at least one tender; and

       transmitting information corresponding to the data; and

       accepting <u>from a tender recipient</u> a request for an exception to create or modify a term of the at least one tender,

wherein <u>the term of the at least one tender that is created or modified by the</u> <u>exception relates to a physical characteristic of a particular commodity</u> [[the at least one tender includes at least one of a term and a condition, and wherein the term and the condition are capable of being modified]].

27. (Canceled)

28. (Original) The method according to claim 26, wherein the data is at least one of received and transmitted electronically via the Internet.

29. (Original) The method according to claim 26, wherein the data is at least one of received and transmitted electronically via a network of processing devices.

30. – 34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A set of instructions residing in a storage medium, the set of instructions capable of being executed by a processor to implement a method for utilizing at least one tender <u>created by a tender initiator,</u> the method comprising the steps of:

receiving data for the at least one tender, the at least one tender being provided for a complex multi-variable commodity;

transmitting information corresponding to the data to a device; and

accepting <u>from a tender recipient</u> a request for an exception to create or modify a term of the at least one tender, wherein the complex multi-variable commodity is a particular commodity<u>, and wherein the term of the at least one tender that is created or</u> <u>modified by the exception relates to</u> [[whose price determination is based on a variation of a plurality of variable characteristics regarding]] a physical characteristic of the particular commodity.

36. (New) The system according to claim 1, further comprising:

an arrangement to enable the tender initiator to reject the exception.

37. (New) The method according to claim 11, further comprising:

enabling the tender initiator to reject the exception.

38. (New) The system according to claim 17, further comprising:

an arrangement to enable the tender initiator to reject the exception.

39. (New) The method according to claim 26, further comprising:

enabling the tender initiator to reject the exception.

40. (New) The set of instructions according to claim 35, further comprising:

instructions to enable the tender initiator to reject the exception.